GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:233
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2016
Indo-Africa Hydrocarbon Conference
Gavit Dr. Heena Vijaykumar;Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian-Africa hydrocarbon conference was held recently past and if so, the details thereof along with the issues discussed and Memorandum of Understanding signed with African countries in this regard and outcome therefrom;
(b) whether the Government has proposed scholarship for African nationals for technical and professional courses in the hydrocarbon sector in Indian Institutes and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government proposes to double its term import of crude oil from Nigeria and also setup of a petroleum hub in Mauritius as part of its growing engagement with African nations in the hydrocarbon sector and if so, the details thereof and quantum of crude oil imports from Africa; and
(d) the details of the existing projects for exploration of oil and gas in African nations along with number of public /private sector companies which have shown their interest to expand the hydrocarbon projects in Africa to meet the Indian energy need, company-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)
(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.
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STATEMENT REFFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 233 BY DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT AND DR. SANJAY JAISWAL TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2016 REGARDING INDO- AFRICA HYDROCARBON CONFERENCE

(a) The 4th India-Africa Hydrocarbons Conference was organized in New Delhi from January 21-22, 2016. The Conference saw enthusiastic representation from Africa at various levels, including Ministers of Petroleum, Petroleum regulators, CEOs of National Oil Companies and experts in the field of petroleum. The delegations of 9 African countries viz. Mauritius, Morocco, Algeria, Sudan, South Sudan, Tunisia, Senegal, Equatorial Guinea and Liberia were led by respective petroleum and energy Ministers. Senior officials led the delegations from Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, Egypt, Tanzania, Kenya, Mozambique, Uganda, Libya, Cote d'Ivory, Gabon & Sierra Leone. Nearly 500 delegates participated, including 200 foreign delegates in the Conference. In the margins of the Conference, Equatorial Guinea and ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) signed an Memorandum of Understanding on exploring potential investment opportunities within the hydrocarbons sector in Equatorial Guinea. The conference aimed to give a renewed thrust to India's engagement with African nations in the hydrocarbon space with a resolve to strengthen the relations between India and Africa in all its dimensions, particularly in the Hydrocarbons sector.
(b) India announced additional 250 fully funded scholarships for African nationals for technical and professional courses in the Hydrocarbons sector in Indian institutes.
(c) India's engagement with African countries in the petroleum sector has been on an upswing in the past few years. The crude oil import from Africa was 29.57 MMT in 2012-13, 30.39 MMT in 2013-14, 33.05 MMT during 2014-15 and provisionally stood at 29.34 MMT during April to December 2015. Majority of the crude came from Nigeria (11.4% during April to December 2015), Angola (3.9% during April to December 2015) and Egypt (1.5% during April to December 2015). As a whole our engagement with Africa has also increased in line with our efforts to diversify our energy sources. Indian Central Public Sector refineries are in consultation with their African counterparts regarding future oil and gas purchase, which, however, depends on prices and terms agreed between these companies. During the Conference, Mauritius requested India's assistance in developing Mauritius as a regional hydrocarbon hub, however, no proposal has yet been received from Mauritius in this regard.
(d) Indian public and private sector oil and gas companies have interests in oil and gas fields across Africa, including Sudan, South Sudan, Mozambique, Gabon and other countries. Company-wise details of the projects for exploration of oil and gas in African nations are placed at ANNEXURE A.